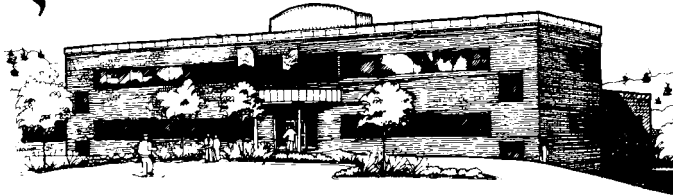




The Fire Service News



New Hampshire Fire Academy



October – December 2001

Volume XX – Number 4

A Service of New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards & Training

"Training on the Leading Edge"

222 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, New Hampshire

Telephone: (603) 271-2661
1-800-371-4503

Website – <http://www.state.nh.us/safety/fst/index.html>
Radio – WPKR 561 154.265

Mailing Address:
10 Hazen Drive 03305
FAX: (603) 271-1091

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Page 2

DRIVER/OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Page 3

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES (SOGs)

Page 5

1-800-FIRE LINE

Page 6

NH FOREST FIRE SERVICE

Page 8

AIRPORT RESCUE & FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING FACILITY

Page 10

NH RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Page 11



New Hampshire Fire Service:

As I sit writing this letter to our colleagues in the Fire Service of New Hampshire, I am listening to the radio, day #2 of the horrific devastation to our nation, and thinking about all those emergency responders who gave the supreme sacrifice trying to save others. What a somber moment for our history and how easy it appeared to happen. I am sure I speak for all of us when

I say that our thoughts and prayers go out to all the victims of this senseless tragedy! We are therefore dedicating this issue of the New Hampshire Fire Service News to the Fire Department of New York City in memory of their fallen brothers and sisters.

On a more positive note, I am happy to report that \$417,960 has been granted to ten New Hampshire Fire Departments for personal protective equipment, training, vehicles, and fire fighting equipment. Recipient departments are: Plymouth, Belmont, Colebrook, Portsmouth, Madison, Hill, Lancaster, Pittsburg, Marlborough, and Holderness. More grants are expected to be awarded in the next couple weeks; however, the above are to date. Congratulations to our recipient communities!

Lastly, we are working diligently to implement the commitments made during the passage of House Bill 303. We are hoping to phase in the additional courses in each County beginning in the Spring of 2002. At least a beginning is the Department of Justice grant programs being offered in Cheshire, Sullivan, Strafford, and Coos Counties where we are offering Firefighter I programs presently.

I hope you all had a great summer, and please have a safe year ahead!

Sincerely,

Richard A. Mason, Director

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Weds., Oct. 10	NH Fire Service Committee of Merit 10th Annual Fire Service Awards and Recognition Presentation; 6:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts	Concord
Weds., Nov. 7	NH Fire Standards & Training Commission "Academy Awards," 7:00 p.m.	NHFA
1st Weds. of each month (except July-August)	NH Fire Standards & Training Commission Meeting, 9:30 a.m.	NHFA
2nd Thurs. of each month	Tests/Retests; sittings at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; preregistration required by 1st of month	NHFA

FIRE INSTRUCTOR PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

FIRE OFFICER PROGRAMS:

Oct. 1-5	Fire Officer I & II Program - Week #1	NHFA
Oct. 15-19	Fire Officer I & II Program - Week #2	NHFA
Oct. 29-Nov. 2	Fire Officer I & II Program - Week #3	NHFA

FIREFIGHTER PROGRAMS:

Sept. 4-Nov. 20	Firefighter II, Fall Evening Program	NHFA
Sept. 5-Mar. 2002	Firefighter I, Fall Evening Program	NHFA
Oct. 30-Nov. 2	Introduction to Technical Rescue Skills	NHFA
Nov. 5-8	Introduction to Technical Rescue Skills	NHFA

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING: Watch for future listings

NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS:

Oct. 21-Oct. 27	Rescue Systems I	NHFA
To Be Announced	NAPD Driver Operator All Vehicles	NHFA

TERRORISM PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER PROGRAMS: Watch for future listings

3rd Wednesday of each month	NHFA
-----------------------------------	------

Thank You!

For those of you who haven't heard yet, I retired from full-time employment at the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Fire Standards & Training (NH Fire Academy) on October 1, 2001.

I am not completely deserting though. I will be working part-time at the Academy, taking and transcribing minutes at the Fire Standards & Training Commission's monthly meetings, and – as the State likes to so fondly put it—doing any other duties as assigned; I am the Secretary-Treasurer for the Fire Instructors & Officers Association of NH, and the Chair of that Association's Mentoring Committee; and I have just been elected President of the Epsom Fire Department Auxiliary.

It's been a great 25+ years working with the New Hampshire Fire Service!

At this time I just want to say thank you to everyone who has helped make those years what they were; so-thank you!

Susan J. Beaudoin



NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE ACADEMY DRIVER/OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS



The New Hampshire Municipal Association, Property-Liability Trust and the State of New Hampshire, Division of Fire Standards & Training – New Hampshire Fire Academy are working together to provide certified driver training programs to New Hampshire emergency responders.

The 16-hour All Vehicle certification program is offered throughout New Hampshire with practical driving exercises conducted on a driving course with your own apparatus, specifically designed to facilitate efficient and safe emergency driving instruction.

There are no fire fighting prerequisites for the All Vehicle certification.

Responders will learn a professional driving technique. Offensive and defensive driving tactics are taught with specific instruction in proper acceleration, braking, and steering, as well as anti-lock (ABS) brakes and retarders.

The program will increase driver confidence and promote safe emergency and non-emergency operations in an action-oriented, informational, and entertaining atmosphere.

Programs are offered at minimal and, in some cases, no cost to New Hampshire emergency responders.

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

NHMA Property-Liability Trust at 1-800-646-2758

or

NH Fire Academy at 1-800-371-4503

ORIENTATION:

To better understand your role as a student in the State's Driver/Operator program, the following list was prepared to illustrate requirements for classroom portions, practical evolutions, quizzes, and the final examinations.

ALL VEHICLE CERTIFICATION:

Prerequisites: No firefighter certification required; must be in possession of a valid operator's driver's license (commercial driver's license not required).

Course Content: Vehicle Maintenance, classroom and practical; Emergency Driving, classroom and practical.

Successful Completion: Complete all required classroom sessions, practical skill stations, and a multiple choice written examination.

APPARATUS EQUIPPED WITH A FIRE PUMP CERTIFICATION:

Prerequisites: Driver/Operator All Vehicle Certification; Certified Firefighter I.

Course Content: Apparatus Systems, classroom and practical; Operations, classroom and practical; Hydraulics, classroom and practical; Sprinklers and Standpipes, classroom and practical.

Successful Completion: Complete all required classroom sessions, practical skill stations, and a multiple choice written examination.

APPARATUS WITH AN AERIAL DEVICE CERTIFICATION:

Prerequisites: Driver/Operator All Vehicle Certification; Certified Firefighter I. (Pump Certification not required, but strongly recommended.)

Course Content: Maintenance, specific to aerial apparatus, classroom and practical; Aerial Systems, classroom and practical; Operations, classroom and practical; Testing Aerials, classroom.

Successful Completion: Complete all required classroom sessions, practical skill stations, and a multiple choice written examination.

Three New Hampshire Fire Departments Receive Grants In Fourth Round

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today three New Hampshire fire departments will receive grants in the fourth round of awards under the Assistance to Firefighters Program. The fire departments slated for grants are:

Pittsburg Fire Dept., Pittsburg, NH \$103,680 for personal protective equipment; Marlborough Fire Dept., Marlborough, NH \$5,130 for personal protective equipment; and Holderness Fire Dept., Holderness, NH \$20,360 for personal protective equipment.

These departments are among the 216 fire departments across the United States that will receive nearly \$9.9 million in grants in the fourth round of awards. According to the agency, more than \$5.8 million of the funds in this round are to be used for personal protective equipment, \$1.8 for wellness and fitness programs, \$1.4 million for fire prevention, \$403,574 for vehicles and \$353,856 for training. More grants in these categories will be announced in coming weeks.

"The personal protective equipment available for firefighters has become much more sophisticated and expensive," said FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh. "The President and I are pleased the grants in this category will help fire departments buy this critical equipment, ultimately helping reduce deaths and injuries in our nation's fire service community."

The awards announced today bring the total assistance provided to date to \$28 million of the \$100 million in grants to be distributed by FEMA through Sept. 30. Future awards will also include grants for fire fighting equipment.

More than 19,700 fire departments - volunteer and career - applied for grants this year, submitting requests totaling almost \$2.98 billion.

The grants, authorized last year by Congress, will reach rural, urban and suburban fire departments. The grant applications are being processed by the U.S. Fire Administration and reviewed by representatives from seven fire service organizations. In each case, the federal grants will be supplemented by local funds.

A list of training and vehicle grant recipients is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.



New Hampshire Fire Department Receives Fire Grant In Sixth Round

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today Portsmouth Fire Dept., Portsmouth, N.H. would receive a grant in the sixth round of awards under the Assistance to Fire fighters Program. The fire department is slated for a \$23,433 grant to purchase fire fighting equipment.

This department is among the 191 fire departments across the United States that will receive \$6.1 million in grants in the sixth round of awards. More than \$3.3 million of the funds in this round are to be used for fire fighting equipment, \$2.1 million for personal protective equipment, \$479,678 for wellness and fitness programs, and \$158,400 for vehicles. More grants in these categories will be announced in coming weeks.

"Grants awarded for firefighting equipment will provide departments with some of the most basic gear they need including hoses, ladders, and ventilation fans," said FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh. "The President and I recognize that when our nation's fire departments have the equipment to maintain a high state of readiness, our communities will be safer places to live and work."

The awards announced today bring the total assistance provided to date to \$49.5 million. FEMA will distribute \$100 million in grants through Sept. 30. Authorized last year by Congress, the grants will reach rural, urban and suburban fire departments.

The grant applications are being processed by the U.S. Fire Administration and reviewed by representatives from seven fire service organizations. In each case, the federal grants will be supplemented by local funds.

A list of all grant recipients to date is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES

Commissioner Les A. Cartier

Recently I attended a session on the proposed NFPA 1720 at the International Association of Fire Chiefs Convention in New Orleans. Part of the proposed Standard would require every fire department, paid and volunteer, to operate under Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). While several departments have existing SOGs, a majority of the volunteer departments do not. This is usually due to the extensive time commitment needed in the development phase. Whether this Standard is adopted or not, SOGs are a prudent way to run a department.

The staff at the NH Fire Academy would like to facilitate this ominous task for departments that need to adopt SOGs. To accomplish this goal, the Fire Academy would like departments with SOGs to send copies to the Academy. In turn, the Academy will set up a resource library for other departments to draw formats and ideas from that will work in their departments. The Academy is also looking for individuals who could review and/or assist departments with the development of their SOGs.

With everyone's cooperation, the safety of all emergency personnel and the communities they serve will improve. If you can help, please send a copy of your SOGs to:

NH Department of Safety
Division of Fire Standards & Training
Attention: SOGs
10 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305

If you are interested in helping others with the development of the Guidelines, please forward your name and information to me, Commissioner Les Cartier, at the above address or e-mail the information to CHIEFCARTIER@mediaone.net.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this effort.

TWO NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE TRAINING GRANTS

WASHINGTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today two New Hampshire fire departments will receive training grants in the first round of awards under the Assistance to Firefighters Program. The fire departments slated for grants are: Town of Lancaster, Lancaster Fire Department, Lancaster, NH \$6,975 and Madison Fire and Rescue, Madison, NH \$16,117.

The initial awards are part of more than \$100 million in grants that will be distributed by FEMA through September 30. The first awards are for training, to be followed by grants for vehicles, fire fighting equipment, personal protective equipment, wellness and fitness programs, and fire prevention programs.

More than 19,700 fire departments - volunteer and career - applied for grants this year, submitting requests totaling almost \$2.98 billion.

"The overwhelming response to the grant program demonstrates the critical need for up-to-the-minute training and equipment in the nation's firehouses," said FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh. "President Bush and I are pleased that we will be able to help hundreds of fire departments this year, and we look forward to being able to provide even more assistance next year."

The grants, authorized last year by Congress, will reach rural, urban and suburban fire departments. The grant applications are being processed by the U.S. Fire Administration and rated by representatives from seven fire service organizations. A list of training grant recipients is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.

2001 ANNUAL NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM

The New Hampshire Fire Service Committee of Merit announces its Annual New Hampshire Fire Service Awards Program, and again requests the support of all fire service personnel in recognizing outstanding acts of courage by career, call and volunteer fire service personnel of New Hampshire.

This program was initiated in 1986, after the death of Concord Dispatcher Paul Sypek. In his estate, Paul left the original funding and designated a committee to carry out the plan for this recognition. The first annual award ceremony was held in 1987 and, since then, many New Hampshire fire service personnel have been given awards for their heroic actions.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT NOW!

There are many fire service personnel throughout the State who have performed courageous acts which should be recognized. Any events occurring between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2001 are eligible at this time for presentation at our next awards ceremony in October, 2002.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

1. A typed letter on proper organization letterhead from
 - (a) Chief of Fire Department of designee; (b) head of a recognized fire service organization or union;

(c) Town or City Manager, Mayor, Selectman, etc. The letter is to describe the action and circumstances leading to the action. It must be a detailed report of what happened, including the type of emergency, time of day, date, and a description of conditions which made the event hazardous, dangerous or unusual.

2. Nominee(s)' name, mailing address, home and work telephone, fire department or organization, and rank must be included in the letter.
3. All paid, call, and volunteer firefighters or emergency service personnel are eligible; also, awards may be made posthumously.
4. Include any pertinent newspaper clippings, photographs, or videos, as well as a listing of any other awards the nominee(s) received.

DEADLINE: Must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2002

MAIL TO: NH Fire Service Committee of Merit
Stacey DeVol, Secretary
10 Hazen Drive, Concord NH 03305

ANY QUESTIONS: Contact Rick Mason at
1-800-371-4503 or 271-2661

1-800-FIRE LINE

THE NATIONAL RECRUITMENT LINE FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS

Dear Volunteer Department Chief:

- * Imagine if hundreds of potential volunteers could call a toll free number for information on how to become a volunteer firefighter.
- * Imagine that toll free number was available to direct these potential volunteers to your department for more information.

Well, **1-800-FIRE LINE** (1-800-347-3546-3) is now up and running at the Fire Academy. But we need your help! First, we must advertise, then we need someone to have as a contact for the fire departments to provide information to these prospective firefighters.

This is how it works: A potential volunteer dials 1-800-fire line (#) and gets the Fire Academy (Stacey). She in turn gives this person the name and number of the nearest Fire Department and Representative who will then give the necessary information to that potential volunteer in order to pursue his/her request.

Our question to you is, would you want us to refer them to you or someone else on your department for this information? If it is to be you, we have the information needed; if it is to be a designee of yours, then you will need to contact Stacey DeVol at 1-800-371-4503 to give the necessary information for the referral. If we do not hear from you, then we will use you as the contact.

FEMA Publishes Proposed Rule For Fire Management Assistance Grant Program

Washington, D.C., August 10, 2001 — The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has published a proposed rule for implementing the Fire Management Assistance Grant Program as established by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The action is intended to give the general public the opportunity to comment on the overall guidance for the operation and administration of the new program, which by law takes effect on October 31, 2001.

One of its key provisions is the expansion in the range of eligible activities from the suppression of forest and grass-land fires that threaten to cause a major disaster to the "mitigation, management and control" of such fires. The program also allows FEMA to provide funding for eligible local government activities and for emergency-related services, such as evacuations, sheltering and search and rescue operations.

The agency proposes to incorporate additional measures that include establishing: new criteria for submitting and

approving state requests for fire management assistance; a fire-cost threshold that represents five percent of \$1.04 per capita of a state's population or \$100,000, whichever is higher; and a 75 percent federal and 25 percent non-federal cost share for authorized fire management assistance grants.

The proposed rule, entitled "Disaster Assistance: Fire Management Assistance Grant Program," was published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, August 1, 2001, Vol. 66, No. 148, pp. 39715-39726. Copies are available from FEMA's Website at www.fema.gov/library/lib1001.htm.

The comment period was open until September 17, 2001. Interested parties mailed written comments to the Rules Docket Clerk, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C St., SW, Washington, DC 20472. Written comments also were sent by fax at 202-646-4536, or by e-mail at rules@fema.gov.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE SERVICE COMMITTEE OF MERIT 10th Annual Fire Service Awards and Recognition Presentation

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2001 at 6:30 P.M.

CAPITOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS
44 South Main Street, Concord, NH

FEMA AWARDS \$2 MILLION IN SPECIAL FIRE ACT GRANTS

WASHINGTON - The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced today the awarding of three major grants totaling \$2 million under the Assistance to Firefighters Program for fire and burn prevention programs. Under the program, grants are made to major fire and life safety organizations to promote a variety of public fire protection and prevention initiatives. These grants will be used to address fire and injury related programs with a special emphasis on children.

"It is important that we all take steps to reduce the number of fire and burn injuries, especially with children," said FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh. "These grants have been awarded to outstanding programs that have a proven track record of success particularly among children under 14."

The latest recipients of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants are: International Association of Fire Fighters Burn Foundation - \$750,000 for burn prevention, treatment and general fire prevention programs; National Fire Protection Association - \$500,000 for the "Risk Watch" fire prevention program for school age children; National Safe Kids Council - \$750,000 for targeted fire prevention programs for children nationally and in 10 major metropolitan areas of the United States.

The grants were awarded under the non-competitive portion of the Assistance to Firefighters Program, authorized last year by Congress, and will reach rural, urban and suburban communities. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) is processing the grant applications. A list of grant recipients is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be listed as awards are made.



NH FOREST FIRE SERVICES

News & Notes



Remember . . . Safety First . . . On Every Incident . . . Every Time!

- First and foremost we want to thank all of the individuals and organizations that supported the Division in getting much needed additional staffing and funds to support our mission. The Governor and the Legislature approved and passed the budget that allows us to hire two new Forest Rangers, pay our Forest Planner out of State funds, and fund necessary positions with the UNH Cooperative Extension. We have posted the first Forest Ranger position for applications from in-house and have at least one candidate at this time. This position will be located in our South Region. The second Ranger position is not authorized to be hired until after 1 July 2002.
- We are currently at 633 fires year to date that have burned 297 acres. This is ahead of our 20-year average for number of fires and less than our 20-year average for acres burned. We strongly encourage all fire departments to keep us informed of wildland fires that occur within your community. We need to know size, cause, material burned, and if a structure was involved or impacted. We are required to report fires on a weekly basis to our State and Private Federal partners, and your timely reports help with this. You can call the local tower with the information; or call, email, or fax the information to the Concord office. The extended forecast for the next 60 days is continued dry conditions and below normal rainfall.
- Recent Fire Weather Forecasts – We've received several calls and emails regarding the recent fire danger class days. With the very scattered nature of recent rains, it's been very difficult to predict the fire danger. Again, PLEASE HELP US HELP YOU! If you disagree with the local fire danger, let us know. Keep us informed of your local conditions and especially when you stop and start issuing fire permits. This local information helps us to make the best decisions possible regarding State updates. We've received some grants recently that will allow us to buy and place remote weather stations (up to four) in different locations around the State. We're also trying to obtain permission to access other weather information sites, again to obtain the best weather picture.
- We are in the process of printing new fire permits! The fire permits will no longer have incinerators in a check box (only DES can issue incinerator permits) and the permits will no longer ask for the permittee's date of birth (D.O.B.). The D.O.B. has been determined to be confidential information. If you question whether the person requesting a permit is 18 (RSA 227-L:17, Res. 5601.03 age limit) or older, you have the right to verify the age by picture ID. YOUR CURRENT FIRE PERMITS ARE STILL VALID.
- We've not met with DES yet to start working on educational material regarding burning of domestic waste/burn barrels.
- We've sent one 20-person crew to Oregon/Washington states and at least five single resources to multiple locations in the West. Our thanks to these firefighters, their families and their employers for helping out in this time of need.

Have a safe Fall.

Help us keep the fires small!

Respectfully,

Chief Bud Nelson and
your Forest Protection Bureau staff

Are Your Bed and Breakfast Occupancies Egress Systems Safe?

Classification of Bed and Breakfast (B&B): Up to 3 people – Life Safety Code Chapter 21 (1997 edition)
 3 up to 16 people – Life Safety Code Chapter 20 (1997 edition)
 17+ people – Life Safety Code Chapter 16 & 17 (1997 edition)

Most B&B's fall into Chapter 20 for Lodging or Rooming Houses. This discussion will reference those that fall into Chapter 20.

All sleeping rooms shall have electrically powered single station smoke detectors.

All corridors shall have electrically powered interconnected smoke detectors on each level. All levels shall have at least one manual pull station to sound the alarm.

All new (including change of use) B&B's are required to have automatic sprinklers.

All existing B&B's are required to have fire rated stair enclosures or automatic sprinklers.

These are some of the key areas for the B&B's, and the Life Safety Code will provide the detail needed to insure code compliance. The inspection of these facilities should be from top to bottom, including all safety, heating, and electrical systems. The sealing of penetrations and replacement of missing ceiling tiles are important to the overall protection of the occupants.

With the recent B&B fire that claimed one life and seriously injured another, the code items listed above would have made a difference.

FIRE PREVENTION AND CODE COMPLIANCE WILL SAVE LIVES!

FIRE INSTRUCTORS & OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF NH APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Rank/Title: _____

Street/PO Box: _____ email: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Fire Department or Organization: _____

I hereby apply for:

_____ **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:**

- a) Certified NH Fire Instructor
- b) Chief of Fire Standards & Training
- c) Officers of recognized Fire Departments

_____ **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:**

Any person interested in the furtherance of Fire Service Training

_____ **STUDENT MEMBERSHIP:**

Any Fire Protection/Science student

MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$10.00 due April each year, Payable to FIOANH

I agree to take an active and interested part in the work and goals of the Fire Instructors and Officers Association of New Hampshire and will do my utmost to advance fire fighting training and education in New Hampshire and to cultivate fraternal fellowship and mutual programs of training methods between all Fire Service Organizations, both State and Local.

Application Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please mail this application to: Susan Beaudoin, Sec./Treas.
 FIOANH, 19 Brimstone Hill Road, Epsom, NH 03234
 Beaudoin@metrocast.net

RULES FOR FIRE GROUND COMMAND

(Snafu's will increase in proportion to rank)

by Chief Henry W. Munroe (Retired)

PROGRESSIVE DISASTER

RULE A: Anything that can possibly go wrong during a fire will go wrong!

Corollary #1: Everything tends to go wrong at the same time!

Corollary #2: If there is a chance that several things will go wrong, the one that will do the most damage will happen!

Corollary #3: Left alone, things will always go from bad to worse!

Corollary #4: Fires tend to be comparable: they burn anything burnable.

Corollary #5: Decisions tend to be systematic—they are consistently wrong!

Corollary #6: If everything seems to be going well, you have overlooked something!

INTERFERENCE

RULE B: If you are a junior officer, it is impractical to worry before hand about interference from a superior. If you have none, someone will surely supply it.

TACTICS

RULE C: Never use simple tactics if complicated ones can make you look brilliant. Pay no heed that the building is burning down while your complex orders are being carried out!

CRITIQUE

RULE D: When being asked to explain your decisions, actions, and tactics by a superior officer regarding your most recent fiasco, utilize either Munroe's Maxim or Henry's Factor. Both of these brilliant concepts are replications of complex mathematical theorems redesigned to analyze fireground tactics. Simply stated, they consist of constant variables or, if one prefers, variable constants.

Munroe's Maxim—a translation of the zero sum order may be defined as changing the fire behavior to fit the tactics used.

Henry's Factor—may be defined as changing the tactics used to fit the fire behavior.

A combination of the two, "The Twaddle Co-Efficient" (used sparingly because of its impact), is defined as "Changing everything so that the tactics used and the fire behavior require no changing at all."

AIRPORT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING TRAINING FACILITY

During the biennium ending June 30, 2001, the Division of Fire Standards & Training and the Division of Aeronautics (Department of Transportation) were awarded a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to build a facility to train airport rescue and fire fighting personnel.

The New Hampshire Fire Academy Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) facility is currently under construction with a December 2001 anticipated completion date.

The \$8 million facility, when completed, will be capable of meeting the requirements of Index E Airport Fire Departments and will include:

1. 125' Fuel Spill Burn Area
2. Multi-Function Special Aircraft Fire Trainer
3. Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Vehicle

4. Control Tower and Classroom Building
5. Vehicle Maneuvering Area
6. Propane Fill Station

Construction of the site began in early November 2000 and will continue through the winter months. Initial phases will include site and foundation work for the Control Building. The Fuel Spill Burn Area and Special Aircraft Fire Trainer simulators from Symtron Systems (Fair Lawn, NJ) were placed in August of 2001.

The first regularly scheduled program is due to be presented in April 2002. Programs will include Federal Aviation Administration required Airport Fire Fighting primary and recertification training, Aircraft Response for Structural Firefighters and a myriad of other ARFF topics.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RETIREMENT SYSTEM



The Granite State

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Firefighters who are eligible to retire (have at least 20 years of service and age 45) but are still working should file a Pre-selection form with NHRS. The form allows your beneficiaries to receive the maximum pension amount if you should pass away before retirement. There is legislation pending that would make pre-selection automatic but, for now, all members who are eligible for retirement must complete the form to get the maximum benefit.

To get a copy of the form, contact NHRS at 271-3351 extension 252 or (toll-free) 1-877-917-6477 extension 252, or download it from the section on Pre-retirement death benefits on the NHRS website at www.state.nh.us/retirement.

REMINDERS:

- If you are thinking of retiring within the next few years, call the NHRS Public Information Office at extension 252 to request a Group II Planning Guide.
- The NHRS counselors are available to meet with members and their spouses as they prepare to file for retirement. You must file the paperwork for retirement at least 30 but not more than 90 days before your effective date. To be eligible for Service Retirement, you must file before you leave your job. Call extension 235 or 236 to make an appointment. Please call several months in advance of the time you need to file.
- Does NHRS have your current address and beneficiary choices? If you had a change in circumstances, you need to fill out new forms for NHRS: change of name/address and change of beneficiary. Each year thousands of annual statements get returned because we do not have the member's current address. Also, NHRS is obligated to process death benefits to those named on the form we have on file, regardless of any change in marital status or other circumstance. Call extension 252 if you need a new form.
- If you leave your job before pension eligibility, it does not necessarily mean you should take your money out of NHRS. You might be sacrificing a lifetime pension - or at least the opportunity to have the best savings account anywhere. If you leave your job, call the NHRS at extension 252 to find out more about your rights and benefits.
- Do not leave your job before you file for retirement - it will change your status from "active" to "vested deferred". In order for firefighters to qualify to the post-retirement medical subsidy, they must be on "active" status when they file.
- After you retire as a firefighter and begin drawing a pension, you can get a job working anywhere else, except for full time work with an employer that is part of NHRS. If you return to full time status with an employer that is part of NHRS, you become an active NHRS member again. This will cause your pension to stop, until you retire from your new job. NHRS covers all full time state employees, teachers and many county and municipal workers.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE FIREFIGHTERS

Subscriptions to the quarterly Newsletter are available to NH Firefighters at no charge simply by completing the request below.

Name: _____

S.S. # _____ D.O.B. _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Fire Dept. Affiliation: Full Time Career (over \$10,000 Annually?): Yes () No ()

Primary Fire Department: _____

Rank: _____

Secondary Fire Department: _____ Rank: _____

Submit Completed Subscription Request Forms To: Newsletter Request
New Hampshire Fire Academy
10 Hazen Drive
Concord NH 03305



The Fire Service News



NH Department of Safety
Division of Fire Standards & Training
10 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305

29

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CONCORD NH
PERMIT #1478